



# Touching Base



A Newsletter by the Retiree Activities Office (RAO)

MacDill Air Force Base, Florida

(813) 828-4555

[www.macdill.af.mil](http://www.macdill.af.mil)

Select Units → 'Around MacDill' → 'Retiree Activities'

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**SEPTEMBER 2011**

## **RAO LOCATION , TELEPHONE NUMBER AND OPERATING HOURS**

The MacDill Air Force Base Retiree Activities Office (RAO) is located between the Commissary and the Main Base Exchange. A satellite facility is located in the Food Court of the Main Base Exchange. Operating schedule is Monday through Friday, 0900 hours -1500 hours. Telephone: 813-828-4555 DSN 968-4555

## **RAO MISSION**

The mission of the MacDill Retiree Activities Office is to provide assistance to retired military personnel, their family members, and their survivors in identifying, applying for, establishing, and receiving entitlements resulting from the member's military service. We assist individuals in resolving issues that arise from receipt or non-receipt of entitlements. We also provide assistance in Federal Income Tax preparation and submission.

Our customers are American servicemembers and their dependents. They have earned our respect, and their retirement benefits, by dedicating their lives to the defense of the United States of America. They have sweated and bled in distant lands, foregone the stability and pleasures of family life, and followed the orders given to them without regard to personal cost. They should take great pride in their accomplishments. In addition, they are entitled to the fulfillment of the contract drawn with our country. At the Retiree Activities Office, we take great pride in supporting the fulfillment of this contract. It is our responsibility to maintain open communication and to ensure they receive superb service and the respect that they so rightfully deserve.

## **RAO DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE** — Colonel William W. Graham (USAF Ret.)

Greetings, fellow military retirees and families, widows and widowers ..... I would like to extend the warmest regards to all of you. When you visit MacDill Air Force Base, please stop by the RAO to meet our counselors. The RAO at MacDill AFB serves as an information center to connect retirees and their dependents to benefits and resources.

We are an all-volunteer staff. During weekdays, the RAO staff is available to assist you in matters such as military pay, Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP), and general information relating to retired military benefits. If you are unable to visit our office due to traveling distance, we would be happy to assist you over the telephone. I am an active member of the Air Force Retiree Council. In the past few years, I had regularly attended council meetings to provide retirees with the latest benefit updates. Unfortunately, this year's Air Force Retiree Council meeting was canceled due to lack of funding. As a result, there are no council issues to report in this newsletter. We will try our best at the RAO, however, to continue to provide you with the latest news. Toward the latter part of 2010 and continuing into 2011, I have started publishing monthly messages in the MacDill Thunderbolt newspaper in an effort to provide supplemental information to retirees.

Please feel free to come into our office if you have questions or need assistance. We currently have volunteer positions available. If you wish to join our team of counselors, please contact us either by telephone or in person. The Retiree Appreciation Day event for this year is Saturday, September 24, 2011. Military retirees and families are invited to MacDill AFB on this day to enjoy many free services and special discounts. AAFES and sponsors will provide a display of the traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall at the BX main entrance. I am looking forward to meeting you ....

## HELP US SAVE POSTAGE ....

Our newsletter is also available on-line at the MacDill AFB Web site. If you have Internet access and wish to stop receiving our newsletters through regular mail, please send email request to [rao.macdill@us.af.mil](mailto:rao.macdill@us.af.mil). Be sure to include your full name and mailing address in your request. We appreciate your help.

## MACDILL RAO WEB PAGE

The RAO Web page is located at the MacDill AFB Web site [www.macdill.af.mil](http://www.macdill.af.mil). Select 'Units' from the menu of the home page. When the next page is displayed, click on 'Retiree Activities' (located in the section labeled 'Around MacDill'). This will link you to the RAO Web page. You may view a copy of this newsletter by clicking on the link 'Retiree Activities Newsletter' on this page. The RAO Web page also contains links to other Web sites that may be helpful to retirees.



## CHANGED YOUR MAILING ADDRESS ?

Please keep in mind the MacDill RAO does not have the authority to make changes to your mailing address. Printed copies of our newsletters are mailed to you using your mailing address currently on file with DFAS. Be sure to notify DFAS when you have a change of address.

You can notify DFAS in one of three ways: Log on to myPay and make the change yourself; send request in writing to DFAS; or simply telephone DFAS.

According to DFAS, the simplest and quickest solution for changing your mailing address is through myPay. Otherwise, use the information below to notify DFAS of your change of address:

If you are a retiree ...	If you are an annuitant ...
Mail your change of address form or request to:  DFAS U.S. Military Retired Pay P.O. Box 7130 London, KY 40742-7130	Mail your change of address form or request to:  DFAS U.S. Military Annuitant Pay P.O. Box 7131 London, KY 40742-7131
or FAX your request toll free at 1-800-469-6559	or FAX your request toll free at 1-800-982-8459

If you prefer to notify DFAS by telephone, both retirees and annuitants may call DFAS at **1-800-321-1080**

[Source: <http://dfas.dtic.mil/rapay/rafaqs.html>]

### Please note ...

*If you choose to submit your request in writing, please include both your old and new mailing addresses, along with the effective date for the new address. In addition, please include your name, social security number and signature with date on your request.*

*According to Air Force Retiree Services, only survivors who do not receive SBP payments may change their address by writing to:*

*HQ AFPC/DPSIAR, 550 C Street West Ste 8, Randolph AFB TX 78150-4713  
(POC: Tammy Cournoyer, [tammy.cournoyer@us.af.mil](mailto:tammy.cournoyer@us.af.mil))*

## WHEN VISITING MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE .... Please Remember .....



### Cell Phone and Driving

A hands-free device is required when using a cell phone while driving on base. In the event you must use a cell phone and do not have a hands-free device, please pull over. This rule is strictly enforced by the MacDill 6th Security Forces Squadron. Roadways are aggressively monitored by Security Forces personnel for any drivers using a cell phone without a hands-free device.



### Alert Crew Vehicles On the Move

If you encounter an Alert Crew vehicle – a large blue van with a flashing red light on the roof and the sign “ALERT FORCE” posted on its side – safely pull to the side of the road and allow it to pass. If you are at a stop sign, pause and allow the responding vehicle(s) to proceed. It is MANDATORY that all drivers yield to these vehicles.

(Alert Crew vehicles are operated by aircrews from the 6<sup>th</sup> Mobility Wing and 927<sup>th</sup> Air Refueling Wing to conduct regular exercises. During these exercises, aircrews at times drive above the posted speed limits from various locations toward the flight line.)

[Source: The MacDill Thunderbolt – June 10, 2011]



### **DBIDS In Full Implementation**

Be sure to register your ID card in DBIDS ... Based on information provided by the MacDill 6th Security Forces Squadron, effective July 1, 2011, all ID card-holders (including dependents and retired members) who have not registered their ID cards in DBIDS will be directed to the VRF (Visitor Reception Center) to register before they are allowed entry onto the installation.

DBIDS registration may be done at the following locations:

- ⇒ Visitor Reception Facility (Monday-Friday 0600-2200 and Sat/Sun 0600-1800)
- ⇒ Military Personnel Section - Bldg 373 (same building as Pass and ID)  
(Monday-Friday 0730-1530)

[Courtesy of the MacDill 6th Security Forces Squadron]



### **A MESSAGE FROM MACDILL AFB PHARMACY SERVICES .....**

Prescription services are available at the following locations for your convenience. Please follow the guidelines for each location.

#### **○ Refill Drive-Thru Pharmacy** (located behind the PharmaCARE Center at 7101 Kingfisher Dr.)

<b>Monday through Friday</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. (for pick up only)</b>

Please enter the Drive-Thru area from Kingfisher Drive near the Armed Forces ATM machine. Please pick-up all called-in refills at the Refill Drive-Thru pharmacy.

**It is mandatory to call-in refills at (813) 828-5367 or 1-800-272-0201.**

When arriving at the Drive-Thru please provide the following:

Last 4 digits of sponsor's SS#

Last and First Name of the patient

Address of patient

The number of refills you are picking-up

Refills must be picked up within 7 days (prescriptions cannot be dropped off at the Drive-Thru lanes)

#### **○ PharmaCARE Center** (located at 7101 Kingfisher Dr., MacDill AFB Phone: 813-828-2226)

<b>Monday through Friday</b>	<b>8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</b>
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Accepts paper prescriptions from all providers. Providers may also fax prescriptions. Faxed prescriptions are not a priority and will not take precedence over patients waiting in the lobby. It is the patient's responsibility to make sure the prescriptions have been faxed in. Pharmacy staff will not call providers or patients on faxed prescription status. All faxed prescriptions must:

- a. Be faxed to (813) 828-0088
- b. Be faxed from doctor's office ONLY. (Type written/ computer generated)
- c. Include full name of patient, date of birth, phone # and last four # of sponsor's SSN#

**NOTE: Faxed prescriptions for CONTROLLED (NARCOTIC) drugs will not be accepted**

Prescriptions faxed in by 12:00 noon will be available for pick-up through the drive-thru the next duty day.

Prescriptions faxed in after 12:00 noon will be available through the drive-thru after two duty days. All prescriptions must be picked up within 7 calendar days or they will be returned to stock.

#### **○ Brandon** (located at 220 Grand Regency Dr, Brandon, FL Phone: 813-827-9737)

<b>Monday through Friday</b>	<b>7:30 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.</b>
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ALL patients (retirees included) may order refills via call-in refill line to be picked-up at the Brandon Clinic.

Brandon Pharmacy does not accept hand written prescriptions. All hand written prescriptions must be taken to the PharmaCARE Center.

#### **○ Main Clinic** (located at 3250 Zemke Ave., MacDill AFB Phone: 813-827-9300)

<b>Monday through Friday</b>	<b>7:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.</b>
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Prescriptions will **ONLY** be filled for patients whose data was entered into the computer by providers at the Clinic.

All pharmacies will be closed on all federal holidays, and some family days. All pharmacies will close at 12:00 P.M. on training days (3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of each month).

### ○ Prescription Transfers

Do you have refills on prescriptions you had filled at another pharmacy, military or civilian? No problem. Bring them into us and as long as it is a formulary item, we can transfer those prescriptions from the other pharmacy to us and save you even more time and money. Please allow 72 business hours to process these requests.

### ○ Prescription Drop-off Boxes

The MacDill AFB Pharmacy has installed two drop-off boxes in two locations for your convenience. One drop-off box is located inside the PharmaCARE center. The other drop-off box is located in the BX Food Court, on the wall, behind the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) information stand. This allows patients to drop off new prescriptions during peak hours. At the BX you can drop off new prescriptions when the PharmaCARE center is closed.

Prescriptions placed in the drop-off boxes by 12:00 noon will be available for pick-up through the drive-thru the next duty day. Prescriptions dropped off after 12:00 noon will be available through the drive-thru after two duty days. All prescriptions must be picked up within 7 calendar days or they will be returned to stock. Please use the envelopes at the drop-off box locations to provide the following information:

- Patient's full name and current contact phone number
- Patients' current address
- Patient's date of birth
- Sponsor's Social Security Number

You are required to use one envelope per patient. To avoid errors and delays DO NOT mix multiple patients in one envelope.

All patients are required to have a yellow Third Party Insurance Card. Active duty members are exempt from this; however, their family members/dependents are required to have one. If you do not have a Yellow Third Party Card (TPC) from MacDill AFB, we will provide you with Form DD2569 to complete. All money collected from TPC goes back to the facility in which services were received. This allows MacDill AFB either to add more items to the formulary or to help pay for additional employees such as pharmacy technicians and providers. This in turn allows us to offer more services and products to you.

Please remember that our formulary is subject to change at any time without notice. Always ask to see if an item has been placed on our formulary. This can save you and the government money. Here at MacDill AFB, your prescriptions are free - Yes, Free! You can receive up to a 90-day supply of your prescriptions for free as long as we have it on our formulary and as long as your provider writes the prescription for a 90-day supply. Pharmacies cannot change the quantity. (Narcotics and certain other drugs are limited to a 30-day supply). If you go to a retail pharmacy, you can expect to pay anywhere from \$ 3 to \$22 (or more) per prescription per month supply.

If you have any questions, comments or suggestions please feel free to contact our Pharmacy Patient Advocate, Mrs. Sheila Woodruff at 813-827-9769. You may also reach us at [6MDG.Patients@macdill.af.mil](mailto:6MDG.Patients@macdill.af.mil)

*[Courtesy of MacDill AFB Pharmacy Services]*

### REMOVAL OF SSN FROM MILITARY ID CARDS

- Retirees with an INDEFINITE expiration date on their ID cards may request removal of social security number at any time.
- Dependents may renew their ID cards and request the removal of SSN 30 days prior to the expiration date.

The MacDill Pass and ID office highly recommends on-line appointments for ID Card renewal. Retirees and dependents may use the Web site <http://appointments.cac.navy.mil> to make on-line appointments.

If you do not have access to the Internet, call one of the following numbers to make an appointment:

813-828-2278 or ...	813-828-5118 or ...	813-828-1988
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*[Courtesy of the MacDill Pass and ID Office]*

### DRIVER'S LICENSE NUMBER AND VETERANS

Florida veterans will soon be able to have a letter "V" placed on their driver's licenses to identify their status as veterans. This would make it easier for veterans to obtain store discounts. Under SB 1190 and HB 1165, Florida

*"Serving those who served"*

veterans would be able to have a letter "V" on their licenses by simply paying \$1 and presenting DD Form 214. (As of May 2011 the bill has passed the Florida House of Representatives and is awaiting approvals by the senate and governor.) [Source: <http://www.floridavets.org>]



### A HOME ON FLORIDA'S EAST COAST ?

Good news for retirees ... Housing is now available at Patrick AFB !

"The Landings at Patrick" now offers two, three, and four-bedroom unfurnished homes for between \$900 and \$1,200 per month, minimum one-year lease. Maintenance and cable TV are included. Some of these homes have a beach view.

#### Contact information:

1060 South Patrick Drive  
Patrick AFB, FL 32925  
Telephone: 321-613-3810  
<http://patrick.pinnaclefamilyhousing.com/>

\*\*\*You may also contact the RAO at Patrick AFB for more details:

Telephone: 321-494-5464  
Schedule: Monday - Friday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
e-mail: [rao@patrick.af.mil](mailto:rao@patrick.af.mil)



**PLANNING A TRIP TO HAWAII ?** Have you ever wanted to go to Hawaii, but thought it would be difficult to book into the Armed Forces Recreation Center (AFRC) resort hotel - the Hale Koa Resort Hotel? We have recently learned from some retirees that the booking is much easier now than it has been in the past, due to a reduction in travelers and an enlargement of the establishment. You may contact the hotel at 1-800-367-6027.



### ABOUT YOUR MEDICARE BENEFITS AND TRICARE ....

According to TRICARE rule, "TRICARE beneficiaries eligible for premium-free Medicare Part A **must** have Medicare Part A and Medicare Part B coverage to remain TRICARE-eligible. Your TRICARE benefits will be terminated for any period of time during which you have only Medicare Part A." (Active duty servicemembers are exempt from this rule.)

[Source: <http://www.tricare.mil/>]

#### Medicare Part A and Part B (Part A = Hospital insurance Part B = Medical insurance)

When can you start receiving Medicare coverage ?

You get Medicare coverage starting the first day of the month you turn 65.

The key factor is, you must be 65 to actually get Medicare coverage.

Can you qualify for Medicare Part A and Part B before age 65 ?

Yes. You may be qualified automatically for Medicare Part A and Part B if you collect benefits from Social Security or the Railroad Retirement Board (RRB). However, your coverage does not actually start until you turn 65.

If you don't want to keep Part B, you must follow the directions when you get your Medicare card to let Medicare know you don't want it. Otherwise, you will be charged the Part B premium.

(But remember, in order to be covered by TRICARE For Life, you must be covered by Medicare Part B.)

Who does not qualify automatically for Part A and Part B ?

Individuals who have reached age 65 and are not receiving Social Security or RRB benefits yet (for instance, because they are still working).

These individuals need to sign up if they wish to be covered by Medicare Parts A and B.

(TRICARE For Life beneficiaries must be sure they sign up for both Medicare Parts A and B.)

⇒ To obtain information about signing up for Parts A and B, call Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 or use the Website [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov)

⇒ For more information on premiums and penalty, contact Medicare at 1-800-633-4227, or visit the Website <http://www.medicare.gov>

#### CRDP or CRSC – WHICH IS FOR YOU ?

Many military retirees are eligible for both Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP) and Combat Related Special Compensation (CRSC), but, federal law prohibits receiving both. Each year these retirees are encouraged to decide which entitlement they prefer to receive during the "Open Season," which runs from January 1 to January 31. These benefits are specific to each retiree's personal situation. If you are eligible to participate in the Open Season,



you will receive a letter detailing the benefits of each entitlement by mail. Along with the letter, you will receive an Open Season Election Form, which allows you to choose the type of payment you wish to receive.

There are several differences between CRDP and CRSC. Before making your decision, you may want to consider how these differences affect you. For instance:

CRDP is subject to federal taxes; CRSC is not.  
CRDP is subject to division with a former spouse; CRSC is not.  
SBP premiums can be deducted from CRDP, but not CRSC.

If you have questions about how your election will affect your taxes, you should contact your financial advisor or a tax professional.

If you feel the information reflected on your form is incorrect, you may contact Defense Accounting and Finance Service Customer Care Center at 1-800-321-1080 from 7 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. EST, Monday through Friday. Forms should only be submitted if you are making a change. Envelopes must be post-marked by January 31. If post-marked after this date, the form will not be processed and the current payments will continue.

To learn more about CRDP and CRSC, visit the DFAS Website <http://dfas.dtic.mil/rapay/rafaqs/crdpcrsc.html>  
[Source: The Defense Accounting and Finance Service (DFAS)]



#### **“VETERANS AFFAIRS SERVICES” NOT AFFILIATED WITH V.A.**

An organization called Veterans Affairs Services (VAS) is providing general benefit information on V.A. and gathering personal information on veterans. THIS ORGANIZATION IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH V.A. (The Web address is <http://www.vaservices.org/us/index.html>). VAS may be gaining access to military personnel through their close resemblance to the V.A. name and seal. The V.A.’s Legal Counsel has requested that V.A. coordinate with DoD to inform military installations, particularly mobilization sites, of this group and their lack of affiliation or endorsement by V.A. General Counsel requests that if you have any examples of VAS acts that violate chapter 59 of Title 38 United States Code, such as VAS employees assisting veterans in the preparation and presentation of claims for benefits, that you contact your local V.A. office and request that they pass the information to Michael G. Daugherty, Staff Attorney, Department of Veterans Affairs, Office of General Counsel (022G2). [Source: Kevin Secor, VSO Liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs – 25 Nov 2010]

#### **BEWARE – SOME VETERANS MIGHT BE ILLEGALLY CHARGED FOR FILING DISABILITY CLAIMS**

Washington, DC (May 12, 2011) – Congressman Gus Bilirakis (FL-09), Vice Chairman of the House Veterans Affairs Committee, and Rep. Tim Walz (MN-01) have introduced HR 1826, bipartisan legislation that would make it a misdemeanor to illegally charge veterans for filing a disability claim. This bill was introduced after Bilirakis and Walz learned of abuses by groups charging veterans money to file claims for benefits they may never receive.  
[Source: <http://bilirakis.house.gov>]

#### **CHANGE IN YOUR MARITAL STATUS ? NOTIFY DFAS – VERY IMPORTANT !!**

Retirees who elected Survivor Benefit Plan (SBP) Full Spouse coverage at retirement and later re-married must notify the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) of the change in SBP beneficiaries. This must be done within one year of the new marriage. Submit to DFAS a copy of the new marriage certificate together with a completed Survivor Benefit Plan Election Change Certificate (DD Form 2656-6). [Source: <http://www.dfas.mil/dfas/retiredmilitary/>]

Mail or fax DD Form 2656-6 along with legal documents such as marriage certificates, divorce decrees and birth certificates using the following information:

By mail: Defense Finance and Accounting Service U.S. Military Retirement Pay P.O. Box 7130 London, KY 40742-7130  **Be sure to send only copies of documents. Do not send the originals.	By fax:  1-800-469-6559
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Visit the DFAS Web site at <http://www.dfas.mil/dfas/retiredmilitary/> for more information regarding SBP.  
(Select the option ‘Provide for Loved Ones’ on the left side of the Web page, then select ‘Survivor Benefit Plan’)



## SBP ANNUITANTS – IMPORTANT REMINDER !

Are there reasons SBP payments may be temporarily stopped? The answer is yes.

Each year DFAS requires annuitants to complete and return a Certificate of Eligibility (COE) with information such as their address and marital status. This information is used to determine an annuitant's continued eligibility. If the annuitant does not complete and return the COE to the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) by the deadline, pay will cease until DFAS receives an up-to-date COE. (The Certificate of Eligibility is sent to annuitants each year, two months prior to their birthday). For more details, call DFAS at **1-800-321-1080**. [Source: <http://dfas.dtic.mil>]

Instead of the COE, DFAS sends the Report of Existence (ROE) to recipients of Survivor Benefit Plan who live abroad. The ROE is also required for *“Mentally incompetent annuitants who receive payments through a third party”*, as stated by DoD Financial Management Regulation.



## MACDILL SPACE-A TRAVEL

The MacDill Passenger Terminal is located in Building 90 near the hangar area at 8119 Marina Bay Drive, MacDill AFB. Retirees may visit the PAX terminal to obtain Space-A travel information.

<b>Hours of Operation</b>	Monday-Friday 0730-1630 Hours	
<b>Service Counter</b>	Commercial 813-828-2440/2485	DSN 968-2440/2485
<b>Fax:</b>	Commercial 813-828-7844	DSN 968-7844
<b>24-Hour Flight Recording</b>	Commercial 813-828-2310	DSN 968-2310
<b>Email</b>	<a href="mailto:spacea@macdill.af.mil">spacea@macdill.af.mil</a>	

Web page:

<http://www.macdill.af.mil/macdillpassengerterminal/index.asp>

Travelers may sign up for Space-A using fax or email. Please include the following information:

Name (Last, First, MI)	Date Leave Begins and Ends (Active Duty Only)
Rank	Country Choices
SSN	Name and SSN of Dependents (If Applicable)
Branch of Service	✓ <i>Active duty must fax all travel papers</i>

## HONOR FLIGHT NETWORK

The National Honor Flight Network has recently opened a chapter in the Tampa-St. Petersburg area for WWII veterans: Honor Flight of West Central Florida (HFWCF). The network provides all-expense-paid flights to Washington so that WWII veterans - members of our “Greatest Generation” - can visit the memorials in Washington, DC, dedicated to their service and sacrifice. Information is available at [www.honorflight.org](http://www.honorflight.org). To sign up, go to [www.honorflightwcf.org](http://www.honorflightwcf.org).

Contact information: P.O. Box 55661 - St. Petersburg, FL 33732 Telephone: (727) 498-6079

## PASSPORT APPLICATION ON-LINE

Travelers may use on-line passport application by visiting the Department of State's Web site

<https://pptform.state.gov/>

- ⇒ Upon entering the site, review the ‘Privacy and Computer Fraud and Abuse Acts Notices and Disclaimers’ by clicking on this link.  
Next, click on the box next to the statement ‘I have read the Privacy and Computer Fraud and Abuse Acts Notices and Disclaimers’, then Click ‘Submit’.
- ⇒ When the next page is displayed, click ‘Submit’ in the section labeled ‘**Apply Online**’.

The on-line passport application page also allows travelers to do the following:

- Add Visa Pages - *Add blank visa pages to frequently used passports, or Add blank visa pages when traveling to countries that require several blank pages.*
- Report Lost or Stolen - *Report a lost or stolen passport.*
- Check Status - *Check the status of a recently submitted passport application.*

## AIR FEST 2011

The MacDill Air Fest this year featuring the USAF Thunderbird will take place on November 5 and 6. Please check the MacDill AFB Web site for more information.



## TRICARE Emergency Dental Assistance for Retirees

Retirees enrolled in the TRICARE Retiree Dental Program (TRDP) can visit any licensed dentist within the service area for treatment. Selecting a dentist from the dentist network saves money and the dentist will file the claims. For more information, contact Delta Dental at **1-888-838-8737** or visit the TRDP website [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org)

[Source: TRICARE news release January 03, 2011 No. 11-01]

## TRICARE DENTAL – OVERSEAS TREATMENT

What should you do when you need emergency dental care while traveling overseas? TRICARE Dental provides the following suggestions:

- ✓ Before you go, check the 'overseas host nation provider search tool' at <http://www.trdp.org/enr/overseas.html> for a list of dentists in the country where you will be traveling. You may call collect from outside the U.S. at **312-356-5971** if you need to locate an overseas dentist.
- ✓ Ask your dentist if he or she has contacts in dental fraternity groups (such as the Academy of Dentistry International, the International College of Dentists or the Pierre Fauchard Academy). Dental referrals may be available from a hotel concierge, dental associations, a dental school, the American Consulate or the American Embassy in the country you are visiting.

You will most likely need to pay the treating dentist up front and then submit the claim when you return to the service area. To get reimbursed by Delta Dental, submit a copy of the treating dentist's billed charges along with your completed claim form.

The 'Enhanced Program Benefits Booklet' contains detailed information about obtaining emergency dental treatment while traveling overseas. This booklet is available at <http://www.trdp.org/enr/resources.html>

[Courtesy of TRICARE Dental at [www.trdp.org](http://www.trdp.org)]

## MACDILL AFB PROVIDES TAX ASSISTANCE FREE OF CHARGE !!!

During the 2010 tax season the RAO at MacDill AFB provided free income tax service to 1,423 individuals including active duty personnel, retirees, dependents, widows and widowers of all service branches. Total savings were estimated at \$321,455.63. [Courtesy of the MacDill Legal Office]

Tax assistance will be provided again this coming tax season in the RAO building. This service is offered free of charge to retirees, spouses and active duty families. It will be provided as follow:

- ⇒ **Appointments** may be scheduled by calling the RAO Tax Office at **813-828-0248** starting **January 17, 2012** between the hours of 0900 and 1400 hours.
- ⇒ **Walk-in** service will be provided **five days a week beginning Feb 6, 2012**. Operating hours are 0900-1400. NOTE: Active duty personnel in uniform are given priority over other walk-in customers between 0900-1100 hours.

It is recommended that all tax payers bring in their prior year tax records, especially those who have not been serviced by the Tax Office at MacDill RAO.

The tax assistance program is sponsored by the Staff Judge Advocate and is operated under the supervision of the RAO. Tax preparers are trained under the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program and are certified by the IRS for performance at a level commensurate with most retirees' incomes.

**NOTE:** Tax assistance is also available free of charge at the Brandon MacDill Family Resource Center by appointment. Call **813-655-9281** or **813-654-2730** for more information.



## TELEPHONE NEWS LINE FOR "NON-WIRED" RETIREES

A toll-free telephone news line has been set up for Air Force retirees and surviving spouses who do not have computer access.

Callers to **1-800-558-1404** can use this new easy-to-use menu-driven service to stay informed on pay and annuity matters, health care, ID cards renewal and other benefits and entitlements. This news line provides the latest news and information to the service's retiree community by joining the e-Afterburner, Air Force Retiree News Service, and Air Force Retiree Web site at [www.retirees.af.mil](http://www.retirees.af.mil). [Courtesy of Air Force Retiree News Service].





DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
6TH AIR MOBILITY WING (AMC)  
MACDILL AIR FORCE BASE FLORIDA

1 August 2011

**MEMORANDUM FOR ALL MILITARY RETIREES**

FROM: Colonel Lenny J. Richoux, Commander, 6th Air Mobility Wing

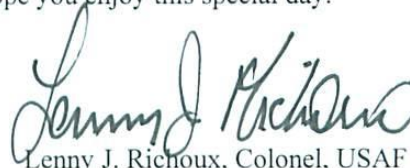
SUBJECT: Retiree Appreciation Day 2011

Saturday, September 24, 2011 has been designated Retiree Appreciation Day at MacDill Air Force Base. I cordially invite retirees of all service branches to join us on this informative and event-filled day.

Military retirees, dependents, and surviving spouses will have the opportunity to make inquiries and obtain the latest news regarding benefits and entitlements. Visit the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) building and information booths in the Base Exchange Food Court between the hours of 9:00 A.M. and 3:00 P.M. for answers on Veterans Affairs benefits, survivor benefits, legal assistance, casualty assistance, Space-A travel and more. In addition, our MacDill RAO volunteer team will be on hand to provide guidance on the services available at various base facilities.

Event highlights include complimentary health screenings, pay record review, will-making, ID card renewal, and a pay-as-you-go brunch at the base dining facility. In addition, you will experience various accommodations offered by the Army and Air Force Exchange Service through the "Still Serving" event, which may include contests and prizes, discount coupons, sales promotions, as well as food and wine samplings.

Thank you for your service and dedication. We hope you enjoy this special day.

  
Lenny J. Richoux, Colonel, USAF  
Commander

**UNRIVALED GLOBAL REACH FOR AMERICA...ALWAYS!**

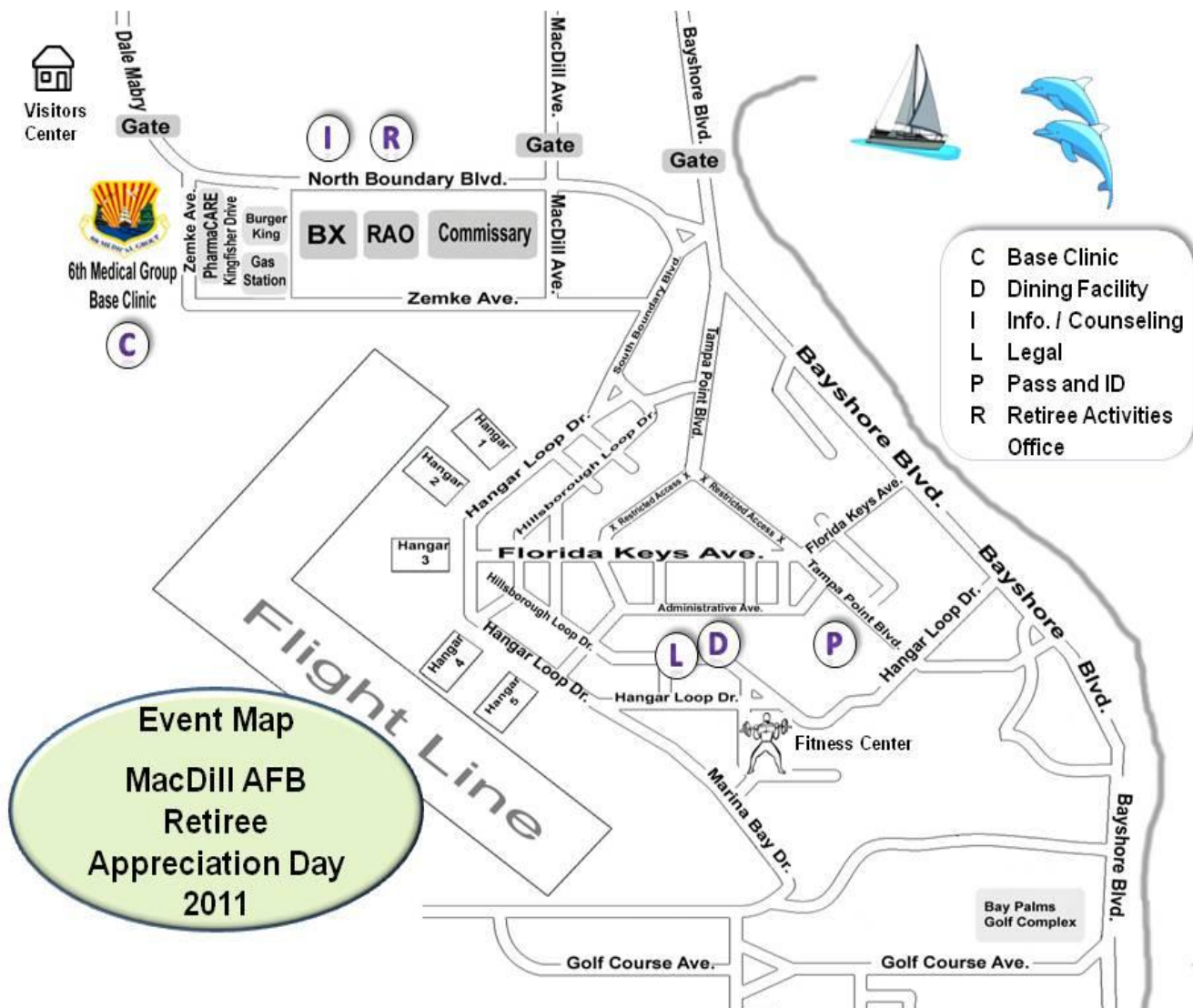
## RETIREE APPRECIATION DAY - Mark your calendar !



**Saturday, September 24, 2011** has been designated Retiree Appreciation Day by Colonel Lenny J. Richoux, 6th Air Mobility Wing Commander at MacDill Air Force Base. Colonel Richoux invites military retirees of all service branches to visit MacDill AFB on this special day to acquaint themselves with benefits and services available at various base facilities. Please refer to the schedule of events below for details.

**New this year:** The traveling Vietnam Memorial Wall will be on display at the Base Exchange entrance, courtesy of AAFES and sponsors.

Time	Events	Location	
7 A.M. - 1 P.M.	<b>Pay-as-you-go Brunch</b> (Base Dining Facility – Diner's Reef)	Hillsborough Loop Dr. Bldg 263	<b>D</b>
9:30 A.M.- 10 A.M.	<b>Wing Commander's Cake Cutting Ceremony</b>	BX Food Court	<b>I</b>
8 A.M. - Noon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>V.A.</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Health Fair</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Optometry / Glaucoma Screenings</li> <li>⇒ Cholesterol Screenings / Blood Pressure Checks</li> <li>⇒ Dental Clinic / Audiology / Dermatology</li> <li>⇒ Nutritional Medicine / Disease Management</li> <li>⇒ Pharmacy</li> <li>⇒ TRICARE / TRICARE Dental</li> <li>⇒ Flu Shots</li> <li>⇒ Prescription Drug Take-Back</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <i>Bring in unwanted, unused or expired medication for proper disposal.</i>	MacDill Clinic 3250 Zemke Ave.	<b>C</b>
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.	<b>Pay Record Review</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Consultation by DFAS representatives</li> </ul> <b>VA Benefits - AMVETS</b> <b>Survivor Benefits</b>	Retiree Activities Office	<b>R</b>
<b>Sign-in:</b> 8 A.M. - 11 A.M.	<b>Legal Assistance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ <b>Wills</b></li> <li>⇒ <b>Powers of Attorney</b></li> </ul>	Legal Office Bldg 299	<b>L</b>
"The MacDill Legal Office will prepare Last Will and Testaments and Powers of Attorney for clients who sign in at the Legal Office between 0800 and 1100 hours. The Will process has been extremely popular during past Retiree Appreciation events. Clients are encouraged to complete a Will Worksheet online at <a href="https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/">https://aflegalassistance.law.af.mil/</a> in advance and to bring the worksheet or ticket number from the website to the Legal Office for their Wills."			
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.	<b>ID Card Issue or Renewal</b> <b>Casualty Assistance</b>	Pass and ID - Building 373	<b>P</b>
9 A.M. – 3 P.M.	<b>Armed Forces Bank</b> <b>Space-A Travel / Recreation Facilities</b> <b>Retiree Associations (MOAA / TREA)</b> <b>Airman and Family Readiness Center / Volunteer Coordinator</b> <b>Florida National Cemeteries</b> <b>American Military Retirees Association (AMRA)</b> <b>Air Force Sergeant Association</b> <b>PAWS With A Cause - Assistance Dog Demonstration</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>⇒ Demonstrations by Assistance Dogs and Their Handlers</li> </ul> <b>Bayada Nurses Home Care Specialists</b> <b>Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay</b>	Information Booths in the BX Food Court	<b>I</b>
Please note ... Events are subject to change.			



## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!**

Volunteering is a rewarding experience. There were many activities and programs that could **not** exist, within our military community, were it not for the volunteers doing the work to make them happen.

### **Be A Volunteer RAO Counselor .....**

If you have been looking for a fun, creative and rewarding way to stay connected to the MacDill community, then volunteering is the answer. At the MacDill Retiree Activities Office, the second largest RAO nationwide, you can join our volunteer staff as a counselor. Hands-on training will be provided by our experienced senior-level counselors. You will work with a great team of volunteers who are military retirees and spouses dedicating their time, skills and talents towards helping the military community.

Please contact one of the following offices:

Retiree Activities Office (RAO)	<b>813-828-4555</b>
MacDill Volunteer Coordinator	<b>813-828-3224</b>

## **SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE CHECKLIST**

The MacDill RAO has prepared a 'Survivor Assistance Checklist' to assist you with future planning. The checklist is included at the end of this on-line version of our newsletter.

## **LOOKING FOR FOSTER GRANDPARENTS ...**

If you are interested in being a foster grandparent, please contact Katrina Farrell, Seniors in Service of Tampa Bay, Inc. at 813-932-5228. This organization is located at 1306 West Sligh Avenue, Tampa, FL 33604-5902.

**DISCLAIMER:** The Retiree Activities Office Newsletter is published by the Retiree Activities Office (RAO) to inform retirees and family members of matters affecting their military rights, benefits, and obligations. While every effort is made to verify information in this newsletter, the RAO staff cannot guarantee the accuracy of information received from outside sources.



***Lt. Col. Glenn Eggleston (Col "E") 3/23/1922 - 2/13/2011***

Lt. Col. Eggleston served as Director of the MacDill Retiree Activities Office since 1993. He was instrumental in initiating and maintaining the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program which provides no-charge income tax service to military personnel, retirees, widows and widowers. As a direct result of his planning and leadership during his time of service, the RAO received many awards and citations and is considered one of the top RAOs in the Air Force.

***SMSgt Lloyd F. Lindemuth 12/03/1935 - 04/22/2011***

"Lindy" served as a volunteer at the RAO since 2004. He dedicated his time and service as Senior Counselor and Deputy for Administration at the MacDill Retiree Activities Office. Lindy also contributed his services as a volunteer at the Air Passenger Terminal at MacDill Air Force Base. In 2009, he received the Volunteer of The Year Award from the Air Force Retiree Services.

***Ms. Letha Edwards 08/28/1932 - 04/01/2011***

Ms. Edwards, widow of a retiree, had been a RAO volunteer Senior Counselor since 2003 until her recent passing. A familiar presence at the RAO kiosk to many retirees, she devoted numerous hours providing information regarding their benefits and greeting them with a friendly smile.

***Farewell Friends ..... You were an important part of RAO and will always be remembered .....***

***The MacDill RAO Staff***



Retiree Activities Office  
6th Air Mobility Wing/CVR  
2912 N. Boundary Blvd.  
MacDill AFB, FL 33621-5315



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## RAO Staff at MacDill AFB

The RAO is grateful for the efforts of our volunteer staff who unselfishly dedicate their spare time to ensure our retirees, their family, and their survivors are aware of, understand, and receive the entitlements earned as a result of the retirees' long and valiant service to their country.

Flo Barr	<i>Counselor</i>
Richard Barrett	<i>Counselor / Tax Counselor</i>
James Blocker	<i>Senior Counselor</i>
Charlotte Brantum	<i>Counselor</i>
Baron Buck	<i>Counselor</i>
Charlie Cheshire	<i>Deputy for Training / Senior Counselor</i>
Linda Duncan	<i>Counselor</i>
Diep Gotich	<i>Senior Counselor / Newsletter Editor</i>
William Graham	<i>RAO Director / Senior Counselor</i>
Delores Kleva	<i>Senior Counselor</i>
Steven Moore	<i>RAO Deputy Director / Tax Counselor</i>
Joseph Moronese	<i>Senior Counselor / Tax Counselor</i>
Marlin Schmidt	<i>Senior Counselor</i>
Frank Washburn	<i>Counselor / Tax Counselor</i>



## SURVIVOR ASSISTANCE CHECKLIST

This checklist may be used by survivors of military retirees from ALL branches of service. Your survivors must be prepared to furnish the following information and documents when reporting your death. Should you have any questions please contact your Retiree Activities Office. At MacDill AFB this office is located between the Commissary and Base Exchange. Telephone number: (813) 828-4555.

By completing this checklist you will save your loved ones the hardship of locating this information at the time of your death. Remember, benefits are not paid to survivors automatically. Survivors must report the death of the retiree to the proper military authority as quickly as possible.

Member's Full Name:

Member's Social Security Number:

SBP: Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

Member's Service Number:

Rank:

Date of Retirement:

Branch or Service:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Date of Death:

Place of Death:

Cause of Death:

Number of Times Previously Married:

*(Provide marriage certificate, death certificate and/or divorce decree for each occurrence)*

### WIDOW/WIDOWER'S INFORMATION

Full Maiden Name (If applicable):

Social Security Number:

Address:

Telephone Number(s):

Home:

Cell:

Date of Birth:

Place of Birth:

Date of Marriage:

Place of Marriage:

Number of Times Previously Married:

*\*\*Provide marriage certificate, death certificate and/or divorce decree for each occurrence.*

### OTHER SURVIVORS

**Children – Name, Social Security Numbers, DOB, Address**

*(Unmarried children under age 21, under age 23 if a full time student, or 21 and over but incapable of self-support)*

**Deceased Members' Parents (Name & Address):**

*(If deceased, state so)*

**Name and Address of Person Making Funeral Arrangements:**

Telephone Number:

**DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR SUBMISSION**

- Certified Copy of Death Certificate
- Member's Final Copy of DD 214 or Retirement Orders
- Marriage Certificate(s)
- Latest Military Pay Data Statement
- Deceased Member's and Widow/Widower's Military ID Cards
- Proof of termination of previous marriages (Member & Spouse)  
(*Divorce decrees, death certificates, etc.*)
- Children's Birth Certificates, Adoption Papers
- Immigration/Naturalization papers
- VA Claim Number and Pay Data Statement
- Insurance Policies (NSLI, VGLI, Commercial)

**BURIAL OF SERVICE MEMBER**

The following options are available. Normally the Funeral Home, selected by the survivor or prearranged by the retiree, will make arrangements.

**NATIONAL CEMETERIES** (Military retirees, their spouse, and dependent children are eligible.)

<b>Arlington National Cemetery</b>  Arlington, Virginia 22211	Telephones: Toll free 1-877-907-8585 (703) 607-8585	Web address:  <a href="http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org">http://www.arlingtoncemetery.org</a>
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**FLORIDA NATIONAL CEMETERIES**

<b>Bushnell</b> 6502 SW 102nd Avenue Bushnell, FL 33513 Phone (352) 793-7740	<b>Bay Pines</b> 10000 Bay Pines Blvd. St. Petersburg, FL 33708 Phone (727) 398-9426 (Cremated remains only)	<b>Sarasota</b> 9810 State Hwy 72 Sarasota, FL 34241 Phone (941) 922-7200 Toll free (877) 861-9840	<b>South Florida</b> 6501 S. State Road 7 Lake Worth, FL 33449 Phone (561) 649-6489
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\*\* You may contact the Veterans Administration for detailed information. 1-800-827-1000 Website: [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov)

**Burial Flag and Headstone/Marker:**

Contact the Veterans Administration for these items or the nearest Post Office for a U.S. flag.

**Military Honors:** Contact the nearest military installation immediately following the retiree's death. (MacDill AFB Honor Guard: (813) 828-5190).

**NOTIFICATION OF DEATH - CONTACTS****Nearest Local Agencies:**

<b>Retiree Activities Office (813) 828-4555</b> (This office at MacDill AFB will provide assistance to retirees of all military services - <i>Recommended</i> )		
<b>Air Force Retirees</b> (MacDill AFB Casualty Office) <b>(813)828-2503</b>	<b>US Coast Guard</b> <b>(727)824-7682</b>	<b>NOAA (813)828-3310</b>
<b>Army 1-800-557-7408</b>	<b>Navy 1-800-269-5170</b>	<b>USMC (813)831-1065</b>

**National Agencies:**

(These agencies will send a package for completion by the next of kin, and return, if benefits are available.)

<b>Casualty Assistance 1-800-269-5170</b>	<b>Retired Pay 1-800-321-1080</b>
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**SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR NEXT OF KIN**

(Include funeral preferences)

(If additional space is needed, provide information on a sheet of paper and attach to this checklist.)